





### A Simplified Version Of Kogi State Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) Law, 2022

www.protectthechildfoundation.org

# This simplified version of the Kogi State Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) Law, 2022 was prepared and simplified by Protect the Child Foundation to make the law easy for children and everyone to undestand.

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Protect The Child Foundation (PTCF) is a non governmental, humanitarian and policy organisation focused on advancing The Rights of women, children and Persons with Disabilities. This simplified version of the Violence Against Persons Prohibition Law of Kogi State, 2022 was simplified, designed and produced by Protect The Child Foundation under the Project Ebulejonu with the support of the French Embassy Fund.





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**Protect The Child Foundation** 



## MEET OUR ORGANISATION



#### WHO WE ARE

Protect the Child Foundation (PTCF) is a nonprofit and Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) based in Abuja, Nigeria. The NGO began activities in 2017 but was formally registered in 2021. We stand up for the rights, interests and safety of Children. We also promote and support issues affecting women and Persons with Disabilities.

#### THE VAPP LAW MADE SIMPLE

This is a very simple version of the Violence Against Persons Prohibition (VAPP) Law. It explains the law in easy English so that even children and adolescents can understand.

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## About the Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) Law, 2022 (Kogi State)

The Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) Law, 2022 (Kogi State) also called the VAPP Law is a law that protects people from violence, abuse, and harmful practices.

It says that no one has the right to hurt, threaten, or mistreat others. It beating, emotional abuse, ha

The VAPP

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police and courts to

In simple words, this law is here to make sure everyone is safe, respected, and free from harm.





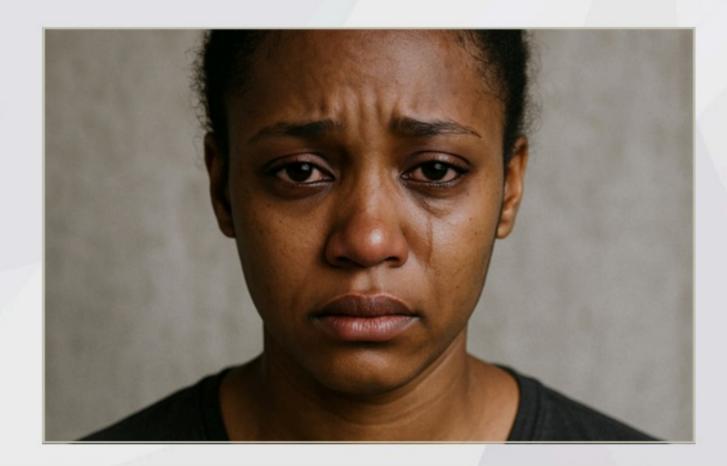
#### VIOLENCE



When someone causes harm to your body, mind, or feelings.

#### VICTIM

A person who has been hurt or abused.



#### OFFENDER



A person who hurts or does wrong to someone.





#### **COURT**



The place where a judge decides if someone has done wrong under the law.

#### SPOUSE

Your husband or your wife.



#### **CHILD**



Any person younger than 18 years old.





#### Sexual Abuse:



Forcing or tricking someone into any sexual act without their consent.

#### Harassment:

Harassment means any act that causes another person to feel afraid, insulted, threatened, or uncomfortable whether through words, actions, or behaviour.



#### Exploitation:



Exploitation means using another person unfairly for your own gain, whether for money, work, sex, or other benefits.





#### Intimidation:



Making someone afraid through threats, bullying, or force.

#### Perpetrator:

A person who commits or takes part in any act of violence or abuse against another person.



#### Vulnerable Groups:



People who may need extra protection such as children, women, persons with disabilities, or the elderly.





#### Rape

Rape is any form of intentional sexual penetration (vagina, anus, or mouth) of another person, using any body part or object, when that person does not freely, knowingly, and clearly consent. Anyone who helps, supports, or advises another person to commit rape has also committed an offence.

Punishment: Life imprisonment and payment of compensation to the victim.

Offender's name is also entered in the sex offenders' register. A person that supports or helps will go to prison for life and may also be made to pay the victim money.



#### **Beating**

Hitting, slapping, or using a weapon to hurt someone.

**Punishment:** 

Up to 5 years in prison or pay #200, 000 (Those who try, help, or hide the offender face up to 1 year in prison or a #100,000-#200,000 fine, or both.)



#### **Scaring People**

Making people afraid you will hurt them.

**Punishment:** 

Up 000



#### **Forcing People**

Making someone do something by threats or fear.

**Punishment:** 

Up to 2 years in prison or pay #200, 000







#### **Damage to Property**

Intentionally damaging another person's property to upset or annoy them.

Punishment: Up to 2 years in prison or a fine of #300,000, or both.

(Attempts, helpers, or those who hide the offender face up to 1 year in prison or a #200,000 fine, or both.)



#### **Dangerous weapons**

Using or attempting to use any dangerous weapon or substance to injure another person, or helping or hiding someone who does so.

**Punishment:** 

Up to 3 years in prison or a fine of #200,000, or both for actually injuring someone.



#### **Physical Abuse**

Intentionally injurin or harmful substanc blade).

**Punishment:** 

Up fine







#### Cutting Girls (Female Circumcision/ Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

Cutting private parts of girls or women.

**Punishment:** 

Up to 4 years in prison or pay #200, 000



## Throwing Bad Substances (like acid or hot water)

Using chemicals or hot things to burn or harm someone.

**Punishment:** 

Prison for life.



A husband or wife beating their partner.

**Punishment:** 

Up pay



#### **Abandoning Family**

Leaving your husbband, wife, or children without food or care.

**Punishment:** 

Up to 3 years in prison or pay #500, 000







#### **Emotional Verbal Abuse**

Calling bad names, insulting, shouting.

**Punishment:** 

Up to 1 year in prison or pay #100, 000



#### **Economic Abuse**

Stopping someone from working or taking their money so they depend on you.

Punishment: Up to 6 months in prison or pay **#100, 000** 



#### Stalking

Following someone all the time, watching them, calling too much.

**Punishment:** 

Up t 000



#### **Harmful Traditions**

Forcing someone to take part in harmful traditional or cultural practices that cause them pain, injury, or humiliation.

**Punishment:** 

Up to 4 years in prison or pay **#500,000** 







#### Incest

Sexual acts with close family members.

Punishment: At least 10 years in prison.



#### **Political Violence**

Fighting, use of Thugs using weapons, or destroying things during elections.

Punishment: Up to 4 years in prison or pay #500,000



#### Violence by State Actors.

When a government official injures or wounds another person because of politics or elections.

**Punishment:** 

Up to 4 years in prison or a #1,

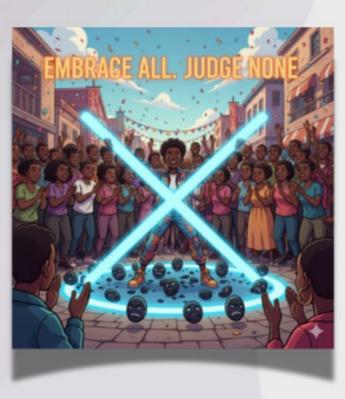


#### Stigmatisation

Stigmatisation mea or with shame beca such as rape or any

**Punishment:** 

Anyone who stigmatises another person will go to prison for up to 2 years or pay a fine of up to #500,000, or both







#### RIGHTS OF VICTIMS

#### Rights Of Victims

- O Victims have the right to be safe.
- O Victims can ask the court for a protection order.
- O Police can arrest offenders immediately to protect victims.
- Victims can get medical help, legal help, and support.



#### The Powers of Police, Court and Office Of The Public Defender

- O Police can arrest people who hurt others.
- O Police can take victims to safe places or hospitals.
- Courts can order offenders to stay away from victims.
- Courts can make offenders pay money to victims
- The Office of the Public Defender and Citizens Rights is in charge of the enforcement of the VAPP Law.



- The Office of the Public Defender and Citizens Rights Commission shall apply to the court for Protection Order on behalf of the victim.
- The Office of the Public Defender and Citizens Rights Commission shall teach the general public on the VAPP law and their rights through awareness campaigns.

#### Contact information for reportage of SGBV in Kogi state

Protect The Child Foundation Foundation.

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#### VALIDATION NOTE

This Simplified Version of the Kogi State Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) Law, 2022 was simplified, designed and produced by Protect The Child Foundation under its Project Ebulejonu with the support of the French Embassy Fund. This Simplified law was thoroughly reviewed and validated by key stakeholders during a one-day Validation Meeting organized by Protect The Child Foundation held on 29th October, 2025.

The validation exercise brought together representatives from:

The Nigeria Police, Ministry of Justice (Directorate of Gender-Based Violence), Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development, Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Eradication, Kogi State Universal Basic Education Board, Office of the Public Defender and Citizens Rights Commission, Nigerian Bar Association, Nigerian Union of Journalists, International Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA), African Women Lawyers Association, Persons with Disabilities Association, Child Protection Network, Concerned Youth and Teens Forum of Nigeria, Nigeria Girl Guide Association, Christian Association of Nigeria and Jamatul Nasril Islam Kogi State Chapter

After careful review and collation of inputs, participants confirmed that this simplified version accurately reflects the key provisions, intent and spirit of the original law as passed by the Kogi State House of Assembly. It was also affirmed that the document is suitable for public use, sensitization and community awareness to promote protection of women, children and persons with disabilities across Kogi State, Nigeria.

.This validated version therefore serves as an official, user-friendly booklet to enhance understanding and enforcement of the law.

Validated this 29th day of October, 2025 in Lokoja, Kogi State, Nigeria.

Signed:

Elizabeth Achimugu

Elizabeth Ebulejonu Achimugu Esq
Executive Director, Protect The Child Foundation



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